

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

March 9, 2006

LB 454

weapons permit, and I'm very surprised that the military people here have not spoken up and said that part of that training is you treat that gun as if it is loaded every time it is in your hand. It doesn't matter if you've got the chamber open and it's devoid of bullets. You do not point that at anything that could be hurt, or you do not point it in a direction that anything behind what you're aiming at could be harmed. That is the training that you get. We have people right now carrying under 28-1202, and our colleague Senator Loudon has brought an amendment to allow those carriers under 28-1202...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time, Senator Combs. On with discussion. Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, thank you, Mr. President and members. I (laugh) have to get up and defend my mayor. She's the mayor of a city of two hundred and some thousand; I think it's up to about 250,000 people. She has a responsibility for the safety of the people in this city, and she is giving her best judgment, Senator Smith, about concealed carry in her city. But she's not alone, Senator Combs. The police chief of Lincoln signed the letter also, both of them. They both believe that we do not need additional handguns in Lincoln. I also...I know I've got tons of letters in my file and the file is so thick you can't get through it all, but I also know of one individual police officer who wrote and said he is supporting my stance on concealed carry. He says: I am a police officer in Lincoln and have been able to carry a concealed weapon for about five years. I do so very seldom. Concealed weapons are just that--hard to conceal. They are uncomfortable and won't be allowed in many places. A vast majority of these weapons will end up in vehicles once the novelty of carrying them has worn off. This leads me to my point. The most common crime in Lincoln is the larceny from auto. What will happen to these handguns once they are carelessly left in vehicles where every rock-chucking, screwdriver-prying thief has access to them? In most small towns in Nebraska, people leave their doors unlocked. Ask the Judy Kohout family of Cortland if this type of crime doesn't come to small towns. In my opinion, this bill will do nothing more than put guns in the hands of people that need them the least. Lincoln has never had concealed carry, and to my